11-30 a.m. SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" There are still a large number of questions to be answered and we have got only 30 minutes more."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, on a personal explanation."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Let the hon. Member state what he wishes to say ' by way of personal explanation '."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Did the students represent . . ." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is no personal explanation. I pass on to the next question."

Nationalization of electricity undertakings.

* 196 *Q.*—SRI M. S. MOGRAL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have decided to take over under their management any private electricity undertakings during the current financial year and if so, how many ; and

(*b*) whether the managements concerned have been informed of the probable date after which the Government will take them over?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) No undertaking will be taken over in the current year under the Madras Electricity Undertakings (Acquisition) Act, 1954.

" (*b*) Does not arise in view of answer to clause (*a*)."

* 197 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals pending with the Government to take over any concerns under the provisions of the Madras Electricity Undertakings (Acquisition) Act, 1954 ; and

(*b*) if so, which concerns?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have decided to acquire the undertaking of the Palghat electric licensee and a notice has been served on the licensee fixing the 1st April 1955 as the date on which the undertaking shall vest in the Government under the Madras Electricity Undertakings (Acquisition) Act, 1954. The question whether any other undertaking should be acquired in the near future under the above Act is under examination."

SRI M. S. MOGRAL :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether any private electricity undertaking in South Kanara district will be taken over by the Government in the near future? "

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THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The matter is under investigation."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" Sir, because of the indecision of the Government whether to take over private electricity undertakings or not, the Mangalore Electricity Undertaking has not been able to carry out the necessary extension schemes. May I know whether the Government will take an immediate decision on the subject? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have already stated that the matter is under examination. The various private electricity undertakings will be told when they will be taken over by the Government. The Government at present are drawing up a plan for taking over private electricity undertakings."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" When the Madras Electricity Undertakings (Acquisition) Bill came up for consideration before this House, the Government wanted that the measure should be taken up for consideration immediately. The reason advanced by the Government was that the measure had to be put through immediately to validate certain provisions of the old measure which had been held *ultra vires* by the Court. May I know from the Hon. Minister why even after passing the amended measure, the Government are not anxious to take over any of the private electricity undertakings? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" At that time, the Government wanted to rectify the defects pointed out by the Court and that was the urgency for introducing the measure. Then, I also stated on the floor of the House that these private electricity undertakings would be acquired in a deferred manner according as finances permitted. The hon. Member has missed that point."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the very unsatisfactory way in which some of these private electricity undertakings are meeting the needs of poor ryots. Particularly, the private electricity undertakings in South Arcot district are not able to meet the needs of poor ryots."

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" It is the intention of the Government to take over all these unsatisfactory private concerns first."

SRI P. SELVARAJ :—" May I know whether, in the meanwhile, the Government will come forward to supply electricity to villages within the jurisdiction of private electricity supply undertakings? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" A separate question may be put on the subject."

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Sri R. S. ARUMUGAM :—" திருநெல்வேலி-தூத்துக்குடி மின்சார கம்பெனியார் மின்சார சக்திக்கு மிக அதிகமான பணத்தை பொது மக்களிடமிருந்து வசூலிப்பதோடுகூட இன்னும் அதிக இடத்திற்கு விஸ்தரிக்க வழியும், வசதியும் இல்லாததாகவும் தெரிகிறது. அம்மாதிரி கம்பெனிகளை எல்லாம் சர்க்கார் உடனடியாக எடுத்துக்கொள்ள முன்வருமா ? "

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" That is what I have said already."

Sri M. PALANIYANDI :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, போன சட்டசபைக் கூட்டத்தில் நான் எந்தெந்த மின்சாரக் கம்பெனிகளை எந்தெந்த வருஷத்தில் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப் போகிறார்கள் என்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் திட்டவட்டமாகப் பதில் சொல்லவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டிருக்கிறேன். எந்தெந்த ஆண்டுகளில் எதை எதை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப் போகிறார்கள் என்பதை இப்பொழுதாவது கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்வார்களா ? "

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" That matter is under the examination of the Government and they are drawing up a plan for taking over private electricity undertakings."

Sri K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister when the Government are going to take over the South Arcot Electricity Distribution Corporation? "

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have already stated that we are drawing up a plan for taking over private electricity undertakings. I cannot say off-hand which private electricity undertaking will be taken over by the Government on which date. The whole matter is now being finalised. "

Appointment of Tahsildars.

* 198 *Q.*—Sri M. S. MOGRAL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the rules governing the inclusion of a person in the list of persons qualified for appointment as Tahsildars;

(*b*) how many Deputy Tahsildars have been promoted as Tahsildars in South Kanara district since 1939 ; and

(*c*) how many of them belong to the backward classes?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) Special rules for the Madras Revenue Subordinate Service.

" (*b*) Twenty-seven.

" (*c*) Seven."

Construction of a bridge for Cherupuzha Thodu in Vayakkara amsam, North Malabar.

* 199 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what stage the construction of a bridge for Cherupuzha Thodu in Vayakkara amsam in Payyanur firka, North Malabar, stands now ; and

(*b*) when the construction of the bridge will be completed?